"Those who are lovers of wisdom must be inquirers into many things indeed."
Clement of Alexandria

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THE SPECTATOR

NOV 22 1999
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Movie Review 8
Matt Olney looks at 'American Beauty.'

Women's Ice Hockey 15
Starts out season at the Sage.

Busy week for Little Pub staff: break-in and extended hours

by Cristen Sargent & Lisa Widowski
MANAGING EDITOR AND NEWS EDITOR

It was a busy week for the managers and employees at the Little Pub, as they contended with both a break-in and the news of extended hours of operation.

Pending an investigation by Campus Safety and the Kirkland Police Department, details will be released soon regarding a break-in and vandalism at the Pub early last Sunday morning.

The incident, which occurred sometime after 2:30 a.m., was not discovered until the next morning.

According to Pub Manager Chad Marshall, "Nothing was broken and nothing was stolen...this was more an incident of mischief."

Marshall did not know who discovered the evidence of the break-in.

Campus Safety Director Pat Ingalls declined to divulge any further details as of yesterday. A police report was filed with the Kirkland Police Department, and the KPD is now conducting an investigation in conjunction with Campus Safety.

*see **Pub**, page 2*

PHOTO BY SARA BRAINARD '01

The Little Pub sits peacefully following an early morning break-in. Newly extended hours go as late as 4 a.m. on weekends.

Use guidelines for Dwight on the way

by Cristen Sargent '01
MANAGING EDITOR

A plan for the newly renovated Dwight Lounge in the Bristol Campus Center will be in place for next semester, two administrators said this week.

"The Bristol Committee submitted a letter to the Bristol family offering our suggestions on ways [the Lounge] could be used," said Beverly Low, director of student activities. "Everything is still under review."

Low is currently allowing certain small functions to occur that fall under what she thinks the parameters for Lounge usage may be.

"Really nothing's changed," added Low, who hoped everything would be set in order for the spring's usage guidelines.

Right now, the Dwight Lounge is being used significantly less than before the renovation. Due to new hardwood floors, which replaced decades-old buckling floorboards, furniture cannot be moved in the lounge. This now puts a significant restriction on which types of functions may be held there. Several student groups had to scramble for space as they learned their annual event could not be held at the tried-and-true locale.

"I walk around up there, and I think," said Low, "How would you use this?"

Vice President for Administration and Finance Daniel O'Leary explained that the space had never been redone since its original construction in the 60s. He empathized with those who feel general-use campus space to be at a minimum, but explained that the loss of Dwight Lounge for ordinary events will be offset by the new social space, built expressly for student use.

"We are trying for a balance, seeing that is it being used appropriately," O'Leary said.

The space, which will connect Beinecke Events Barn to the Little Pub, will be completed by early February. Originally slated to be operational at the beginning of the

*please see **Lounge**, page 2*

SPECTACLES The grass really was greener.

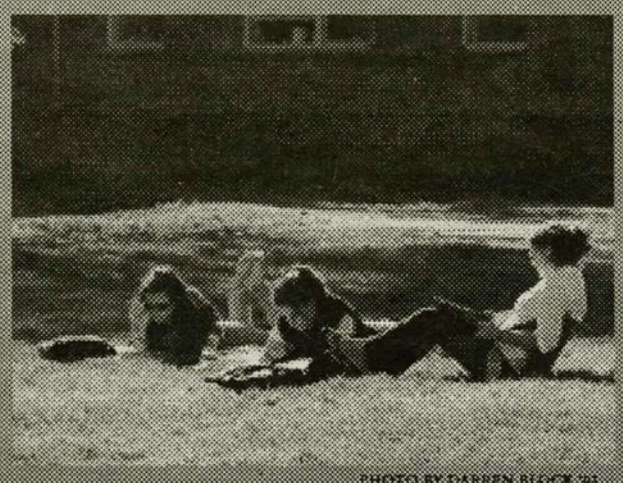

PHOTO BY DARREN BLOCK '01

As snow fell on the hill this week, these sunbathers remind us of a warmer time.

Rush season begins this month

by Lindy Roath '02
NEWS WRITER

On many college campuses Rush quickly comes and passes, but Rush at Hamilton leisurely began Nov. 1 and does not officially end until spring break.

"The way we do Rush makes it so you really have time to get to know people, and potential pledges know whether pledging is really something they want to do," commented Alpha Theta Chi President and member of the Inter Society Council Blue Print Committee Mimi Kelly '00.

The official dates for Rush and pledging are outlined in the Inter Society Council Constitution. The council is a self-governing body comprised of representatives from each of the recognized societies. This year there are eight recognized fraternities: Alpha Delta Phi, Chi Psi, Delta Kappa Epsilon, Delta Phi, Delta Upsilon, Psi Upsilon, Sigma Phi, Tau Kappa Epsilon, and Theta Delta Chi. There are three recognized sororities: Alpha Theta Chi, Gamma Xi, and Kappa Delta Omega.

The ISC is an umbrella group that brings these societies together and enforces policies laid out in both the college and ISC Constitutions. The ISC is then responsible for investigating Rush functions that violate regulations such as the no alcohol policy.

"We [the societies] should be responsible in order to develop a better relationship with the administration," stated Kelly.

The ISC is mandated by the college's constitution, but last year it began to fall apart. According to Kelly, last year the ISC had little or no power and was really only able to put out the handbook on Rush that outlines regulations and gives an introduction to the different societies on campus. At the beginning of this year the ISC had all but disappeared, as the societies had appointed neither presidents nor representatives.

Director of Student Activities

*see **Rush**, page 2*

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Student Assembly prepares for busy year

by Lisa Widowski '01
NEWS EDITOR

Under the leadership of President Jack Spangler '00 and Vice-President Elena Siegel '00, the Student Assembly plans to end the semester with much accomplished, many projects in the works, and several issues on the horizon.

Spangler stressed the major role that the different Student Assembly project teams and subcommittees have played in effecting change and getting the ball rolling on many key issues.

"I am most pleased with the hard work and enthusiasm of the project teams," commented Spangler.

The different teams are working on everything from cable television to Bon Apetit quality issues. Charlie Lower '00 is currently heading a Student Dissatisfaction Committee; this committee acts as an intermediary between Student Assembly and the general student body. Lower hears complaints and issues of concern from students, and then reports these to the Student Assembly.

Spangler praised Steve Guditus '01 and his course evaluation project team. Steve, who has an "established track record of positive achievement," according to Spangler, is head of a committee that is in the process of making course evaluation results accessible to all students.

Elena Siegel '00, Ben Townsend '01, and Chris Viapiano '02 are in the process of updating and compiling an operations manual for Student Assembly. This manual will empower Student Assembly members to make changes and address issues of concern to the Hamilton community.

Kerri Spindler-Ranta '02 is leading a Bookstore Committee, and Beth Bouloukos '02 is working on a Health Issues Committee. Also notable are Ray Ash '02 and his Food Committee. This Food Committee is in the process of reviewing Bon Apetit's contract, as food service seems to be a major con

*see **Student Assembly**, page 2*

Dwight Lounge use still low, new space on its way

PHOTO BY CRISTEN SARGENT '01

The Dwight Lounge, shown here after its first renovation in thirty years.

*from **Lounge**, page 1*

has put the project two weeks behind, O'Leary said.

The Lounge, furnished at a cost of $95,000 to the college, was billed to the Bristol Campus Center endowment fund. This fund, according to O'Leary, is a specific allotment of the general 'renewal and replacements' section of the campus operating budget.

Other major costs after this furniture bill included new electrical wiring, the addition of an audio system, and resizingthe walls.

"The Bristols are people who are very concerned about and have a long history with the College," O'Leary said, "and part of their gift may be used under the general operating budget."

Schwarz grants later hours at the Little Pub

*from **Pub**, page 1*

This incident was followed by an announcement Thursday afternoon regarding extended services at the Pub. A mass email sent by acting President Schwarz relayed new later hours - the Pub will be open till 2 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and 4 a.m. Friday and Saturday - and an expanded menu.

"It's about time they opened their eyes to what college is all about," said Tim Renyi '00. "I look forward to spending more quality time with the bartenders."

Other students echoed Renyi's approval of the new hours.

"It's a great place to study and make friends," said Greg St. Pierre '00. "Tim and I look forward to staying till 4 in the morning studying and drinking free soda."

Schwarz explained that the change was the result of discussions he's had with students, who have relayed to him a desire for later access to campus facilities and services.

"It is my hope that this change at The Little Pub will support your personal needs and enhance the events scheduled in Beinecke Village and the new social space," Schwarz said in an email.

On weekdays the bar will be open till 1 a.m., and Fridays and Saturdays till 2 a.m. Lunch will now be served Monday through Friday 11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. The new hours of operation go into effect Monday, Nov. 29.

But while the pub itself is open later, the bar closes at the same time, 1 am on Sundays through Thursdays, and 2 am on Fridays and Saturdays.

In addition to new menu items and late-night specials, the Pub will continue its policy of free soda and coffee during all hours of service.

"It's great!" summed up Kat Beaulier '01.

There were also some responses that reflected a general ambivalence about a bar staying open longer but not serving beer.

"It's nice that they're trying to cater to student demand," said one student, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "But somebody has missed the point here."

Rush season underway

*from **Rush**, page 1*

Bev Low created a Blue Print committee with representatives from the various societies in order to rebuild the ISC. The first step in that process has been creating a new constitution. Members wrote a constitution last year but it was not passed. The ISC also puts out the Rush handbook each year, which is in the works and should be available to students soon.

Even though the college's constitution requires that there be an ISC to regulate the societies, this year the administration has allowed the societies to function under the assumption that the ISC will be up and running soon.

The sororities held an informational meeting after October break that gave interested students the opportunity to gain general information about sororities on campus and ask questions about the rushing process. Most of the sororities then put flyers in first-years' mailboxes advertising rush functions and encouraging them to bring a friend.

According to Kelly, ATX and most of the sororities host about five rush functions a semester, giving the sisters and pledges opportunities to get to know one another and ask lots of questions. The Rush activities are not only to get to know potential pledges, but as Kelly points out, "We do a lot of community service projects as an organization and so we're looking for girls that will be committed. So we try to incorporate philanthropy into the things we do for Rush."

Potential pledges are also encouraged to attend rush functions of many societies so they get to know all their options.

Fraternity Rush functions work very similarly to those of the sororities. While some of the fraternities only hold four to five functions total between November and February, the brothers often spend time visiting with first years in their dorms and introducing themselves to as many guys on campus as possible.

"Since we are a literary society, we also talk to them about grades and classes and remind them that we're not just about parties," stated ISC representative for Alpha Delta Phi Bill Piontek '02. "We try to offer advice and help on school work, telling guys what certain teachers like and if we've taken the class, offer them help."

Comparatively, Hamilton's Rush practices are very different than those around the country. Most other NESCAC schools have either eliminated fraternities and sororities or have made them coed, like Middlebury and Dartmouth, respectively.

The last few years saw the elimination of Pi Beta Phi, the suspension and reinstatement of Delta Kappa Epsilon, and several other actions that some students believed did not bode well for societies here.

Other colleges around the country that still have fraternities and sororities use the more traditional approach to Rush. Usually a weeklong process, potential pledges go from society to society trying to make their best impression and get the most information they can.

Some schools have very formalized functions where pledges are matched up with a few societies. After the societies and pledges have had the opportunity to take a closer look at each other. From there, students are often broken up into groups and follow a set schedule for the final days of Rush. While this system holds true to the name of Rush, it does emphasize first impressions.

Each year is a key time for societies to build their membership at Hamilton. In a time when liberal arts administrations appear to be tightening the restraints on the greek community, Hamilton's societies continue their annual practice.

Assembly pursues cable

*from **Student Assembly**, page 1*

cern for many students.

Tackling some major issues of the day, Spangler discussed the efforts of Student Assembly to bring cable television to dorm rooms on the Hill. The cable issue is one that the Assembly frequently discusses. Whereas the original proposal for cable was based on the assumption that everyone would pay for cable regardless of whether or not they wanted it, a new proposal is currently in the works.

Working closely with local area cable providers, Spangler has devised a proposal for cable in which there will be an inexpensive basic plan available to everyone. Individuals would then be given the option of purchasing a cable box, with which they can access more channels. There has been much contention over this issue, as bringing cable to all students is "not a cheap thing," according to Spangler.

Along with the cable television issue, Student Assembly is working to improve communication, particularly between the student body and the Assembly. Student Assembly is looking to put out statements and reports on campus damage as part of an effort to maintain communication with students.

In addition, a newsletter reporting their progress on many issues is coming out soon. Spangler notes that reaching out to students and effectively communicating what Student Assembly is all about is "one of our biggest challenges."

Another issue on the horizon for Student Assembly concerns the current search for a new Dean of Students to replace Jan Coates. Student Assembly will be instrumental in establishing the search criteria for the new dean.

On the topic of funding, which is always a hot issue, Spangler stressed that the Assembly is pleased to have received a significantly higher percentage of the student activity fee revenue this year. Despite this increase in funds, Spangler and Vice-President Siegel are pleased that they have still shown a good deal of fiscal restraint and consistency in dispersing funds.

Siegel notes that there is a definite "increase in quality of programming that groups want to bring."

More on-campus groups are looking to book programs that will draw a wider audience. However, it gets more difficult to decide how much money each organization will get. Prioritizing the projects on which to spend money is a continuing issue for Student Assembly. Student Assembly has made progress setting up procedures and guidelines that work in making these decisions.

Overall, both Spangler and Siegel are quite pleased with the way faculty and administration have received their efforts, and don't believe that either group purposely stands in the way of improving student life.

"I'm very satisfied with my interactions with faculty and administration," said Siegel.

Both agreed that there is not an unwillingness to do what students want. Contrary to popular belief, the trustees and administration do listen, and are interested in current student issues, they said.

As testimony to the administration acting on concerns for students, Spangler noted the many "student-friendly" improvements made in the past semester; among them are the new social space and the ability to receive credit for internships.

A major obstacle to effecting change is a matter of perspective, according to Spangler. Most students have about four years here and see matters through this short-term perspective. However, trustees, administrators, and others in it for the "long haul" have a broader view of the overall situation of the college. This problem of perspective is what often leads to miscommunication and frustration, said Spangler.

IVORY TOWERS

THE NEWS AT COLLEGES ACROSS THE LAND

Compiled By Cristen Sargent '01

9 students die as log pyramid collapses at Texas A&M

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — A 40-foot pyramid of logs being assembled for Texas A&M's annual bonfire collapsed early today while dozens of students were working on it. At least nine students were killed and 28 injured.

Authorities said six bodies were taken from the rubble. And Kem Bennett, director of Texas Task Force I, a state-run rescue unit, said he saw at least three more bodies in the wreckage.

Bart Humphreys, a fire department spokesman, had said earlier that five students were unaccounted for.

In the hours after the 2:30 a.m. collapse, rescuers pulled four students from the rubble alive, Humphreys said. One student was pulled free more than six hours later.

Even after that, Cynthia Lawson, a spokeswoman for the university, said crews using sound detectors could hear "moaning and tapping sounds," leading them to believe one or more students was still trapped alive. But the rescuers stopped hearing sounds after 11 a.m., she said.

Cranes were removing logs gingerly, one by one, in the search for more students.

"Every piece of wood in that pile is unstable and every piece of wood that moves affects other pieces of lumber," Humphreys said.

Students who had been looking forward to the huge bonfire, a tradition since 1909 to get fans ready for the football game against archrival University of Texas, were instead in mourning.

Some gathered near the scene, a field on the northeast corner of the campus, holding hands and praying while the rescue efforts continued.

"The scene right now is a scene of disbelief," said Sallie Turner, editor of the Battalion, the student newspaper. "A lot of the students just feel it's surreal."

Patrick Freshwater, a so-called "pothead" because of the hard hats the students wear while helping assemble the bonfire, was helping clear away the logs today after the accident.

"I've never seen anything like this," Freshwater said. "It's something you don't ever want to feel. I went to my class and there was nobody there. The teacher wasn't even there, because no one can go to class when this is going on."

University President Ray Bowen said the 28 students' injuries vary and some were in "quite serious shape." At least three were in critical condition.

Jackson crosses line, arrested in Decatur

(U-WIRE) DECATUR, Ill. — The Rev. Jesse Jackson was arrested Tuesday for crossing police lines in front of Decatur's Eisenhower High School, keeping his promise to "cross the lines" to get seven expelled students readmitted next semester.

He was released Tuesday evening after promising to appear in court in December.

"There's something awry that must be challenged," Jackson said after being released. "The issue is not my being in jail."

Jackson, several other ministers and parents of the expelled students tried to enter the school's lawn in front of screaming crowds and a large media presence after failed morning negotiations with school board members. Jackson pushed back the original deadline for entering school grounds from 7 a.m. to noon Tuesday morning when the superintendent and school board president proposed an emergency meeting.

Several people followed Jackson across police lines, but only three more, Mark Allen, the Rev. Cleo Willis and John Cunningham, were arrested. Willis laid down in front of the van that carried Jackson to the police station. Jackson was arrested for felony mob action, contributing to the delinquency of a minor and solicitation to commit a crime.

The three others were also charged with mob action and various crimes. Felony mob action is defined as two or more people in the process of performing an act wherein someone is injured.

Jackson made his first appearance in front of Eisenhower at 7:40 a.m., where police formed a human barricade in front of the school. Jackson announced to spectators and press that he would meet one last time with members of the school board before moving on to the school.

WORLD NEWS

Compiled By Chris LaRosa '03

Pope gives UN advice on poverty

VATICAN CITY (AP) - The key to relieving the world of poverty, hunger and disease lies not in ideological solutions but in spiritual ones, Pope John Paul II said Thursday.

"Poverty, hunger and disease can no longer be regarded as either normal or inevitable," the pontiff said in a message to the Rome-based U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization during its biennial conference.

"Much can be done to defeat them, and the human family looks expectantly to the United Nations, in particular to the Food and Agriculture Organization, to take the lead," the pope said.

Relieving human suffering requires a "more profound and infinitely more creative power of hope" - not ideologically motivated action, he said.

"This century is strewn with examples of programs and actions which have aggravated rather than relieved human suffering" because they were motivated by ideology, the pope said.

According to FAO, there are 790 million hungry people in the developing world.

John Paul also called on the United Nations to recognize human rights that "transcend the will of individuals and nations."

Blood donor ban in New Zealand

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) - Any person who spent six months or more in Britain between 1980 and 1996 will be banned from donating blood in an effort to protect supplies from a fatal brain disease linked to mad cow disease, New Zealand officials announced today.

New Zealand's health ministry and blood service also said a filtering process would be put in place to identify any white blood cells associated with an aggressive strain of Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease before transfusion, a move expected to cost the equivalent of $4 million each year.

The new strain of Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease has been linked to the British outbreak of bovine spongiform encephalopathy, or mad cow disease. The spongiform diseases eat holes in the brains of victims, and no cure has been discovered.

No New Zealander has ever contracted the disease, chief medical adviser Colin Feek said. There is also no evidence that it can be transmitted by blood transfusions or by any type of person-to-person contact, he said.

China Wants Ties With U.S. Military

BEIJING (AP) - China raised the possibility Thursday of restoring high-level military ties with the United States, saying the breakthrough trade deal reached earlier this week could foster improved relations between the two nations.

On the eve of a visit by a U.S. defense official, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Sun Yuxi suggested military contacts could be restored if the United States takes "effective measures." Such ties were severed after the United States accidentally bombed the Chinese Embassy in Yugoslavia six months ago.

Sun told reporters that Monday's agreement on China's entry into the World Trade Organization shows Beijing and Washington can work together on major issues "no matter how many differences exist between China and the United States in political systems, ideology, values.''

"In order to resume high-level exchanges between the two militaries, we hope the U.S. side will do more concrete deeds. But on the whole we think the signing of the WTO agreement will facilitate the all-around development of relations between China and the United States,'' Sun said at a media briefing.

While he didn't specify what measures were needed, Sun reiterated that Washington should pay "full and effective compensation'' for the embassy attack and "give an acceptable explanation to the Chinese government and Chinese people."

NATIONAL NEWS

Compiled By Chris LaRosa

Dragging convict gets life sentence

JASPER, Texas (AP) -The last of three white men to stand trial for chaining James Byrd Jr. to the back of a pickup truck and dragging him to pieces was found guilty of murder but spared execution Thursday.

Shawn Allen Berry, who insisted he was just a frightened bystander, was sentenced to life in prison for one of the nation's grisliest racial crimes since the civil rights era. His racist roommates were both sentenced to death.

The all-white jury took 10 hours Wednesday and Thursday to convict him, but only two hours to agree on a sentence. Berry, 24, must serve at least 40 years in prison before he has a chance of parole.

Jurors rejected Berry's pleas that he felt his own life was in danger by his racist companions.

"There was a day and time in this country when juries and cops ignored racial cases. Facts are facts, though, and they stayed with the facts," Jasper County District Attorney Guy James Gray said.

Prosecutors called no witnesses in the punishment phase, but introduced evidence regarding Berry's prior convictions for burglary and drunken driving.

For the defense, nine people testified that Berry - who unlike his fellow defendants did not have a history of racist activities - did not meet the death-penalty test of being a future threat to society. Among those witnesses were several of Berry's friends and a psychiatrist who testified against the other two defendants in their trials.

Byrd, a 49-year-old black man, was beaten, hooked to Berry's truck with a 24-foot logging chain, and dragged by his ankles over three miles of a country road last year.

Berry's roommates, avowed white supremacists John William King, 25, and Lawrence Russell Brewer, 32, were sentenced to die in separate trials earlier this year.

Prosecutors said Berry invited Byrd to join the three for a ride, helped chain him to the truck, and then drove during the dragging.

Berry, however, testified that he tried to stop the attack until King warned him that a "nigger lover" could meet the same fate that awaited Byrd. Berry claimed that he was so scared he wet his pants and did nothing further to intervene. Berry also insisted it was King who drove the truck.

Kentucky has highest smoking rate

ATLANTA (AP) - Kentucky, with its tradition of tobacco farming and low taxes on cigarettes and other tobacco products, once again leads the nation in the rate of adult smoking while heavily Mormon Utah still has the lowest rate.

The CDC has blamed Kentucky's high smoking rates on a lack of tobacco controls. The state has the nation's lowest tobacco excise tax at 3 cents a pack and has the nation's most tobacco-dependent farm economy.

"There is a misconception in my state that if you help smokers quit, you are hurting the state's farmers," said Todd Warnick, head of Kentucky Tobacco Control, who was in Atlanta for a conference of state anti-tobacco officials sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

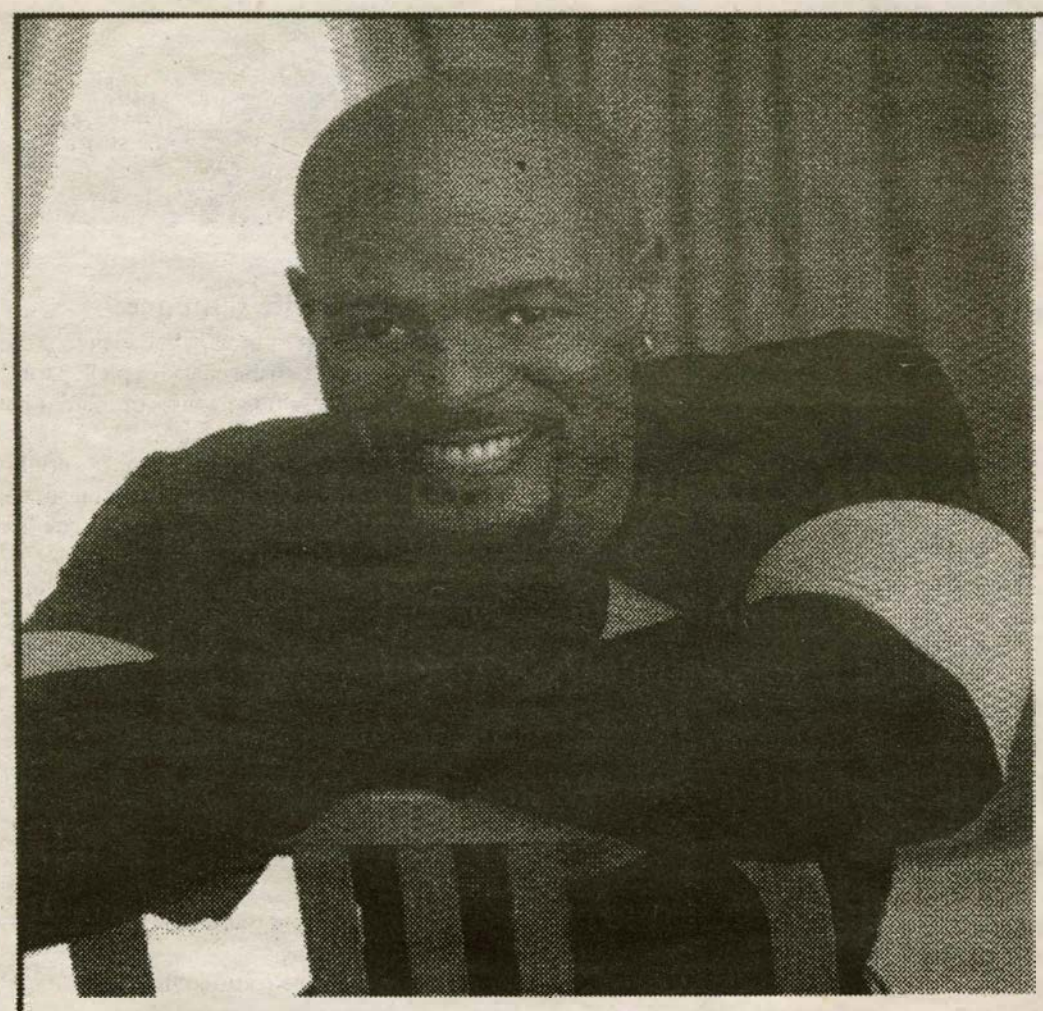
"But U.S. demand for tobacco is about five percent of the entire world demand, and if every smoker in Kentucky quit, it wouldn't make a dent."

Crude prices highest since gulf war

CHICAGO (AP) - Crude oil prices climbed to their highest level since the Persian Gulf War on Thursday, culminating a 9-month rise that will mean steeper gasoline prices, surcharges on plane tickets and higher costs on products ranging from plastic goods to anything that's shipped.

Oil rose as high as $26.80 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange, the costliest since January 1991 when the war drove it to $32. Profit-taking ultimately pushed it back to $25.80 by the end of the day, lower than Wednesday's close of $26.60.

Oil has more than doubled this year, driving gasoline prices up about 25 percent to an average of about $1 25.



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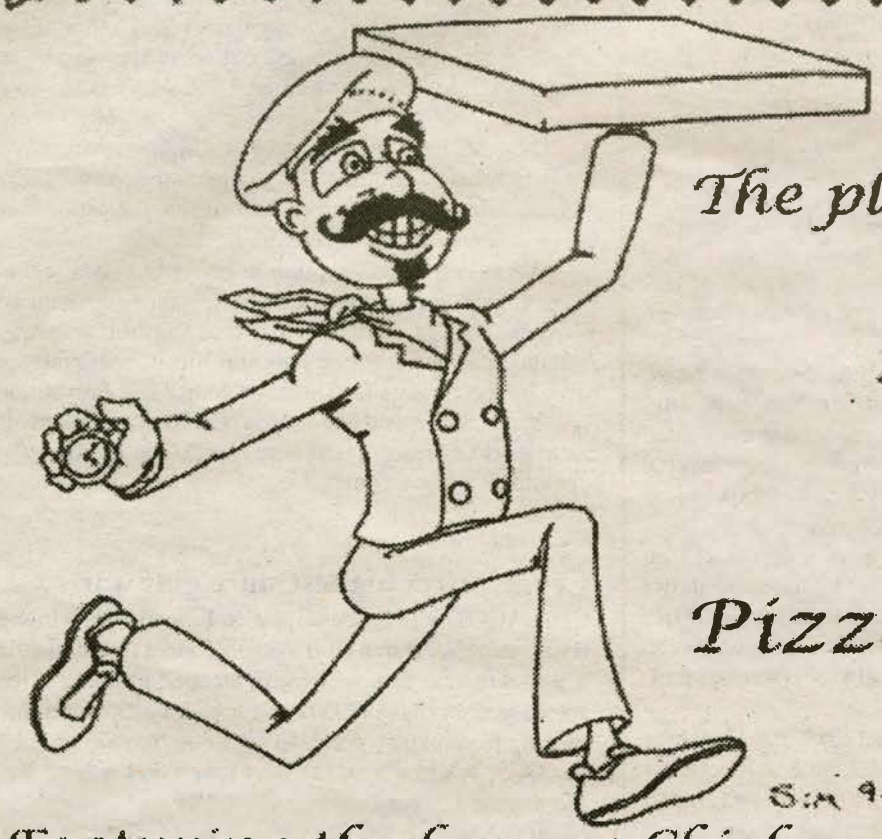

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When: Thursday, December 2nd
Where: Brown Room
Bristol Campus Center
Time: 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Editorial

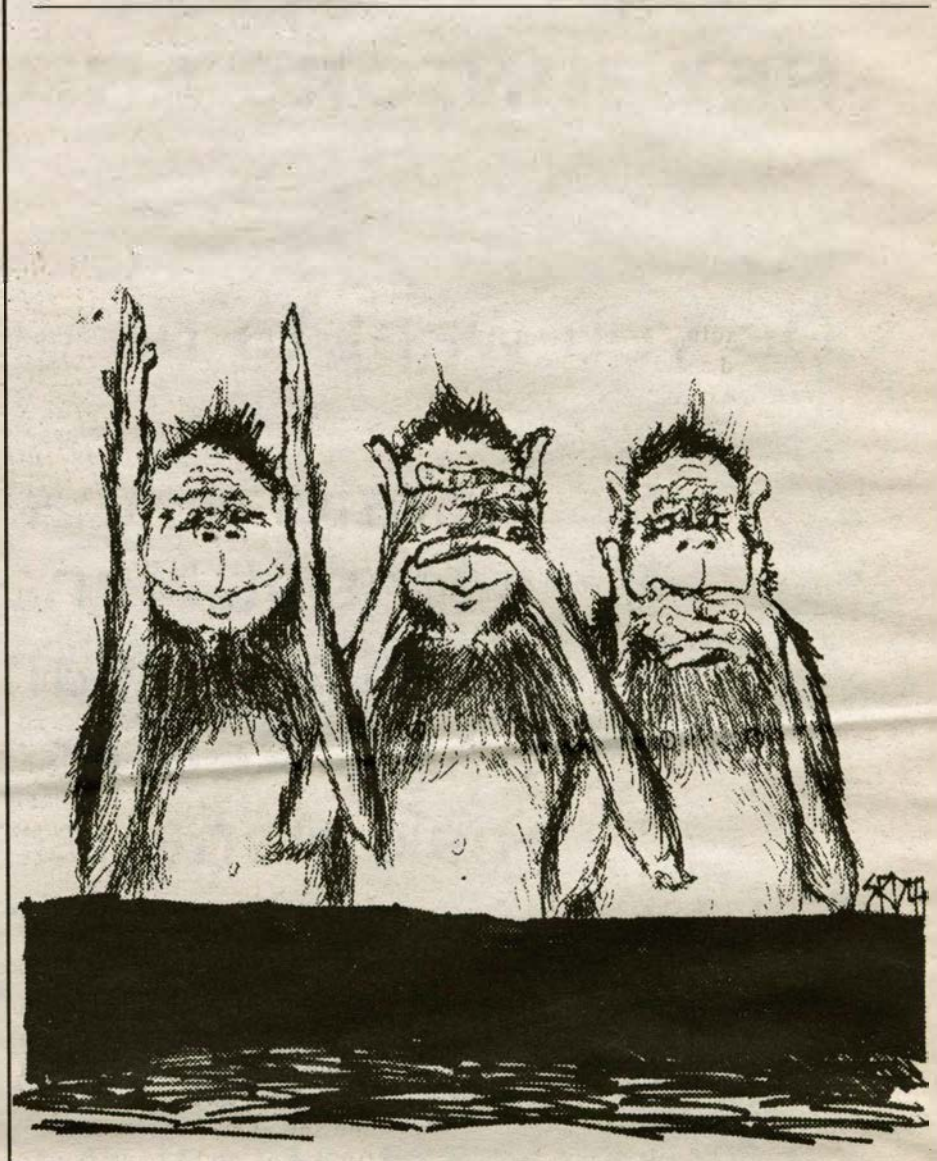
There has been a lot of talk lately about the need to reduce damage in dormitories. Student Assembly put forth their best effort in the matter by sending a letter to the Spectator, which was also placed on dining hall tables, pleading with the student body to cease their senseless destruction. Unfortunately, this effort will have absolutely no effect on the people responsible for the damage, and ignores the root cause of this serious problem.

It is not that the people who break our dorms do not know it's wrong. We suspect that they are fully cognizent of the actions, and just do not care. What is needed is a fundamental change in the way that campus housing and dormitory damage bills are distributed. Currently, students are able to live in blocks of limited numbers, and damage bills are divided among the residents of each dorm. Students live on floors or in houses with a group of people who they have, at best, a superficial connection to. This system should be modified, so that each small house, and each floor of larger dorms like South and Carnegie, is occupied by groups of coed students who have chosen to live together. Prior to the beginning of classes, each group of students should return to campus and complete a maintenance project with the Physical Plant staff on the area in which they will live, so that they gain an appreciation for the work involved in providing their living space.

Rather than dividing damage bills among entire large dormitories, each hall should be responsible for the damage that occurs within it. This would result in a higher level of responsibility among students in each living area for preventing damage from taking place there. Currently, students who live in dorms full of people they have little connection to feel no qualms about making such people pay extra money on their tuition bill for damage they have inflicted. However, if groups of students who agreed to live together knew that their group would be responsible for damages inflicted to their area, they would be more considerate of the costs of their actions.

If students were given the opportunity to develop a sense of ownership of and jurisdiction over their living space, damage to these spaces would decrease. The system as it stands gives students no autonomy or responsibility for their living spaces, and the result is the destruction you will see around you this weekend.

Cartoon



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Letters

Praise for NESCAC Article

Excellent article. I was sports editor for 2 years back in 1995 and 1996, as well as a tennis player, amd wrote on this topic on several occasions Your points are right on. We can't compete in the NESCAC and we never will. We don't have the athletes, the admissions policy, the facilities and most of all the support from the school to compete in the high echelon of NESCAC athletics. Look at Williams and Amherst. They excel in athletics because they excel in everything they do, whether it be music, sports, or whatever. We are mediocre in the NESCAC because comparatively we are mediocre in everything else. Excellence comes out in the product you put on the field or the classroom. It is sad that Hamilton will never understand that.

Samuel Walker
Sports Editor '95-'96

SA Response to Damage

The Hamilton College Student Assembly Position Statement: Rising Campus Damage

We, the Hamilton College Student Assembly, write to express our disgust at the senseless acts of random destruction that occur far too regularly on our campus.

Every light that is shattered and every lamppost that is torn down costs the students of this college, or the parents that send them here, money that could certainly be better spent elsewhere. Perhaps more importantly, these juvenile acts of destruction negatively impact the sense of community that exists here on the hill. It is disheartening to participate in any one of the wonderful things that take place on this campus only to walk home along a path sprinkled with broken glass. Similarly, it is unacceptable when someone's personal property is destroyed.

When an act of vandalism occurs someone's job immediately becomes more difficult. Imagine what it must feel like to clean up the same broken light fixture time after time, knowing full well that it will be broken again. The many members of the college staff who work long and hard to maintain the campus deserve much better.

This is an issue that only we as students can truly solve. Each of us must have the strength to become actively involved in the maintenance of our community. If you witness an act of vandalism have the courage to say that you find such behavior unacceptable and report the incident to campus safety. You can report an incident to Campus Safety anonymously by dialing x4640, or by e-mailing them at <campus-safety@hamilton.edu>.

Signed,

Jack Spangler, Elena Siegel, David Carlson, Ben Townson, Christopher Viapiano, Andrew Osterman, Meghan Reynolds, Meghan Steed, Benjamin Mann, Adam V.S. Abbate, Matthew Eng, Mimi Kelly, Hellmut Haffner, Charlie Lower, Bill Pyles, Karl Mellander, Roy Sabo, Steve Guditus, John O'Keeffe, Alex Peltz, Brendan McCormick, Dave Bugliari, Brian Murphy, Gally Lee, Byron Miller, David Zane, Kerri Spindler-Ranta, Beth Bouloukos, Alison Langlais, Joe Bellingeri, Ray Ash, Maurice Mi haane, AJ Livecchi, Meadow Sakovics, Deenah Byramjee, Karsten Lund, Phillip Campanile, Jamie Regan

LETTERS CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Taking the joke one danish too far

To the Hamilton College Community:

I suck.

I really suck, but let me tell you why.

As you gentle readers know, I have graced the past two issues with my witty and slovenly commentary on Hamilton life. Content to labor in the anonymity of print, removed from the glare of actual human contact, I was surprised a week ago Tuesday with a message on my answering machine.

"Mr. Gormley, this is Gina Hibbard from President Schwarz's office. He would like to meet with you. Please call me so you can arrange a time that is mutually beneficial for you both"

Crap! The administration finally found out who rerouted the phone system so that every time you called the switchboard for my number you werepatched through to 1-900-HOT-BODS. But my very own Sancho Panza, Brett Monroe, had sage advice.

"Gorm, you schmuck," he softly chided, "Its probably about your article in the Spec. You can't go around saying you're going to shoot people from the Chapel without someone taking notice."

By golly, Igor was right. All the tomfoolery, ballyhoo and shenanigans had culminated in an administrative offensive. El Gormbagio y Schwarz. Mano y mano. I had begged for someone to listen and they did. Double crap! Finally, here was an administrator I could praise, because he realized that something was wrong and then talked about it. He actually wanted to talk to students. He cared.

As you can see, I was ecstatic; but as with all tragic figures, my own hubris would be my downfall. No, I didn't kill my father, marry my mother, and stab my eyes out with a thorn. I already saw that episode of Jerry Springer and I hate to be repetitive. Instead, I carried on with my usual aplomb, and that, of course, was my undoing.

So I went to Butrick, made my appointment, went back to my room and wrote down "Thursday, 1:15 pm." (This is a key point-make sure you remember it.) Still not completely convinced that this was going to be a positive meeting, I called all of my professors and asked if they knew what was going on.

The most common response was "How did you get this number?" or "Stop driving by the house with your lights off." Just kidding. They told

W.J. Gormley

me that I had nothing to worry about, President Schwarz was a good egg, andthat I should just be polite. "Leave out any reference to how fat you are and for Christ's sakes don't swear. Make a good first impression because people care about that."

Thursday dawned bright and early at 8:57 am. The caressing tones of Styx jarred me out of my slumber andforced me into the harsh light of day. "Come Sail away, Come Sail away Come Sail away with meeee...." Eight fifty seven, and I have a nine o'clock. As I stumbled out of my room, pulling stained jeans over my sweaty boxers I saw a post it. "Meeting with Schwarz. 1:15pm,T———." The remainder of the message was lost under a cigarette burn.

I ran to class, late, and listened to the lecture. After it was over I went to my professor and apologized for being late. His response, "Jay, If you weren't 5-10 minutes late to class I would think something was wrong." Exhibit A in the case that I am a worthless human.

I rolled in to Commons, hoping to get some tasty bacon vittles, when I, the Lone Ranger, ran into my Tanto, Brett Monroe. He said to me, "Dude, get your underwear out of my car."

Okay, I just needed to get something to eat and then call Schwarz's office to confirm my appointment. So I gabbed two Danishes and went out the door. As we were leaving, Virgil remarked, "Why don't you just stop by his office and check." Okay, that was Stupid mistake number 2 (Number 1 was waking up that morning). Never ever go into an administration building with two danishes, a patina of sweat on your forehead and dirty jeans. If there is one piece of advice I can offer it would be that.

Here is the scene. Covered in crumbs, I walked into Butrick, shoving one Danish into my mouth with the second in my right hand. I turned to the Ted Theadore Logan and said "Hey Brett, would you hold my Danish?"

"No, hold your own damm Danish, you tubby bit&."

I entered Buttrick, Danish in hand, like Caesar crossing the Rubicon. I asked Ms. Hibbard to confirm my appointment with the President through a mouth full of cherry Danish goodness.

"It was Tuesday, you missed it."

Crap cubed! My heart sank, my stomach fell, and the little hairs on my left thigh curled up in fright. It was like not being a DU brother and being outside North court at 2:30 in the morning, with kegs whizzing by and . "Out of the way you D Phi Treckie," the place screamed. Adding to my embarrassment, who walked in but President Schwarz in his finely tailored suit, the picture of a highly successful lawyer/acting college president.

"Hello, Tom Schwarz." Then he stuck out his hand. Remember, gentle readers, the cromulent and corpulent Gorm had one hand covered in Danish goodness and spit, while the other contained an intact breakfast pastry. I transferred the delectable goody to my other hand and shook his, coating his hand in sugar and filling.

Here was an administrator who was everything I claimed the college was not: considerate, kind, open, and willing to talk. Who was I? Everything bad about my collegiate compatriots: late, forgetful, smelly, inconsiderate, and covered with breakfast products. I took an opportunity and squandered it. If there were a noun form of the phrase "screwed the pooch" it would be Gormley.

I mean honestly. I have been pontificating that everybody should grow up and treat this place with a little respect, yet I disrespected a man who thought perhaps that was a good idea. I breathe other people's air, I swear to God.

Well, that's pretty much it. Schwarz walked away wiping his hand off. I rescheduled and hope I do not miss the appointment. If I do, shoot me.

So I'm awful. I had hoped to comment on the pearls of wisdom Schwarz gave me. Instead I am forced to share this tale of woe. To President Schwarz I apologize. You deserve better and I will try to give it to you, I promise. To the Hamilton college community, I am a hypocrite. Vote for John O'Keefe for Student Assembly President. Oh yeah, I almost forgot.

I suck.

Yours in Heftiness,

W. J. "I'd lose my head if it wasn't so far up my ass" Gormley

Just trying to figure things Out

The universe is a confusing place. The planets are spinning, meteors are crashing into things, Don Knotts' frozen corpse is hurtling through space looking for a new home; nothing seems to make sense. We just can't seem to comprehend the nature of reality. After some time here I've decided that the same applies to Hamilton College. There are a lot of strange things going on here, and the only way to make sense out of it all is to take a step back and try to piece things together from there.

Take this past Saturday, for instance. Some pretty crazy events took place on what seemed like an average weekend night. Only now have I been able to put these seemingly isolated incidents together and see the big picture. Keep in mind that all of these events are true and really did happen. I'm just trying to find the underlying truth. Listen close.

The driving force between all of Saturday night's bizarre occurrences was the simple fact that the all-night reading room in the library was closed. It's been closed for a while now, leaving students without a place to work in the wee hours of the morning. Apparently, the problem is that the gate is broken and there is no way to keep students out of the main library, where they may try to keep reserve readings for more than two hours at a time. Luckily, the gate was built into a thick cement wall, so there is no way to repair it in the near future. Now, I've never been a big all-night reading room guy, but from what I hear there is quite a loyal crowd. I've heard rumors that around 3:30 a.m. on Monday nights all of the librarians come out in tube tops and grass skirts and hula until the sun comes up. Check it out.

This loyal all-night reading room crowd was obviously very perturbed at having no place to study on Saturday night. I believe a band of these enraged students were responsible for the Pub break-in that occured. I

Justin Tyler

myself get mad sometimes, and the only thing that cheers me up is the incrediblynice people who run the Pub lunch. I think the all-night readers were also hoping for a shoulder to cry on, and when they didn't find it, well, things got broken.

Meanwhile, on Martin's way, a very drunk young man with a bicycle was attempting to ride through a tree. Make no mistake, a guy on a bicycle spent upwards of 15 minutes trying to make his bike somehow pass through a tree. At one point he began to taunt the tree in an unprecedented attempt to remove it from his path. The Pub vandals must have heard these tree taunts and thought that it was the KPD on an "accidental" bike ride through campus. They needed a getaway car, and fast, so the all-night readers proceded to steal a station wagon from visitor parking.

Once they got on the road, they calmed down a bit and just wanted to return to the library for one last look at their promised land. Unfortunately, Security had blockaded their path with that damnable chain. Since they couldn't get past the chain, they did they next most logical thing: drove that station wagon to the TDX field, stole everything out of it, and set it on fire. They even stole the door handles. This car burned on TDX for three hours before a passing maintenence man noticed it. Where was Security during all of this? Nap time? Field trip? Playing Connect-4?

After that the story gets kind of spotty. The all-night readers porbably met up with the drunk bicyclist and sold the door handles for plane fare to Upper Canada Village. That's the best I can do. All of these crises would have been averted had the main peacekeeping force on this campus, the Ultimate Frisbee Team, not been too tired from their tournament that day to preserve justice. At least they beat Colgate. Isn't it weird how things fall into place?

Mental illness has warning signs, too.

Withdrawal from social activities. Excessive anger. These could be the first warning signs of a mental illness. Unfortunately, most of us don't recognize the signs. Which is tragic. Because mental illness can be treated. In fact, 2 out of 3 people who get help, get better.

For a free booklet about mental illness and its warning signs, write to or call:

National Mental Health Association
P.O. Box 17389,
Washington, D.C. 20041

1-800-969-NMHA.

Learn to see the warning signs.

LETTERS

Criticism of Bigotry in Pub

A couple of months ago I had the good fortune to meet an R & B guitarist named Bobby Green. Bobby has toured for 45 years but has now decided to settle down in Syracuse to stay near his family. But a remarkable musician can't sit still and his current band is dynamic and full of equally remarkable younger musicians. Luckily for us Bobby and his band agreed to play at The Little Pub last Friday night.

In the process of negotiating the contract, Bobby sent me his promo packet. His successes over the years are impressive, but I was saddened to read about his recent experiences in clubs in central NY where his race (and that of his band members), not their musical ability, was the determining factor in their employment. This sets the stage for last Friday evening.

Bobby and his band arrived at The Little Pub and began setting up. While they readied their equipment I walked to the bathroom and on that walk I overheard a private conversation between two studer The comment I heard was a joking racist r about the band. I kept on walking. Since that time I have wondered about my choice to walk by, wondered about those students and wondered about our community.

Whether in a bar or an office or a residence hall room, I still believe that private conversations are just that. I had to lean into their bodies in order to pass by. If their conversation had been loud it would have been an opportunity to challenge the bigotry. But the students were not loud and they were not obnoxious. They were drinking but so what. We can't blame the alcohol.

Our community is believed to be the best and brightest citizens of the future. We come together with a wide variety of experiences and opinions, but our greatest power is our ability to be respectful of each other - publicly and privately. It's not this single experience that brings me to write this opinion. It is this experience that finally forces me to ask what we treasure about our community. And it is this experience that leads me to ask what choices we are making in our classrooms and in our offices, in our homes, at our events and in our residence hallrooms, and in our employees and in our students. What is it we truly value?

Betsy Espe
Director of Auxiliary and Contract Services

Comments from Students in Paris

Hi from Paris. Although we have been very busy, we feel it necessary to comment on the changes taking place on the Hill. Not that as Juniors we've witnessed as many changes as Pete Gaston '99, but we do agreee 100% with what he had to say in his editorial. From all we've heard, Hamilton has lost its spirit. Even from across the Atlantic we can feel negative vibes radiating from College Hill. Obviously it sucks that the KPD has taken over campus security; that Tobin is on sabbatical; that it's harder than ever to get into parties.

If the incoming Freshmen are smart, we need to prove to them just how intelligent we are. Instead of giving up, we have to get even with the adminstration. The only way to do this is to voice our opinions and figure out a way to bring back the liveliness that Hamilton once had. Peter's right that our school has lost a lot of what attracted us to it, but he gradutated and has moved on. Now it is up to you, and to us, when we get back next year, to get motivated and take action. So get off your asses, stop complaining, and get what you deserve from your college experience. This is our contribution. It is up to you, for now, to do the rest. Miss you all and see you next year,

Jessica Hunt '01 & Christina Gee '01
Hamilton College Study Abroad
Program in Paris.

Say No to the WTO

by Scott Kalberer '01
SUBMITTED BY HEAG

The 135 state-member WTO (World Trade Organization) was created in 1995 to globalize the decisions made at the Uruguay Round negotiations of the GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade). The organization aims to deregulate world trade and increase corporate competitiveness in order to create perpetual economic growth among the member nations.

Though the reduction of mercantilism may seem like a lofty goal, the policies of the WTO have had a deleterious effect on national health and environmental regulations intended to protect the general public. The power over corporations has shifted from democratically elected governments to unaccountable international standard-setting bodies. Although corporate interests are allowed to advise the Us Trade representative in Washington, public interest groups are barred from sitting on his trade committees.

To this date all domestic regulations found to be incompatible with the GATT have been slated for elimination. Member nations can no longer use tariffs or import/export regulations to control the exploitation of their natural resources. Most governments traditionally pass legislation regulating land use or certain goods without compensation for lost profits to landowners or investors, providing that the regulation does not discriminate against a particular person. In contrast, NAFTA, part of the new world-trade system, stipulates that any regulatory action that reduces the potential for generating profits can generate a claim for compensation. In essence, the WTO and connected trade agreements create unregulated access to natural resources, reduce the ability of governments to enact legislation, and reduce the ability of citizens to control their own countries.

No one can assume that increased trade will bring economic benefits to any one nation. Development can only continue as long as the drain on natural resources, the origin of all human wealth, remains below the carrying capacity of the environment. Free trade allows humans to consume more than the local area can produce, and encourages the depletion of natural resources worldwide.

Since not every nation can be an importer of resources, it will be difficult for developing nations to reach current American standards of living. William Rees and Mathis Wackernagel, natural resource experts, have calculated that to sustain the current world population at a Canadian standard of living, assuming present technology and efficiency would require three separate earths. Clearly, we must rethink our current ideas about economics and development.

The HEAG organization will soon provide a petition asking to stop the expansion of the WTO's regulatory powers. The petition will demand that legislation passed to protest human rights, health, or environmental standards should prevail over corporate considerations in cases of conflict. It will also ask for Trade dispute tribunals to be open to citizen participation and for representation for all affected parties in a decision. Large numbers of people will protest at the WTO meeting in Seattle from November 29-December 3, and smaller protests are planned throughout the world.

There will be a rally against the WTO Tuesday, November 30, 12 noon, at the NY State Business Council, Washington Ave. and Dove Street, Albany. Individuals interested in this event should contact Carla Scarpone for further details.

Ecologically Friendly Buildings at Hamilton?

Almost unnoticed by the Hamilton community, David Orr, professor of environmental studies at Oberlin College, came to campus Monday, November 8 with a stirring message of hope for a better future.

Invited by James Buchanan, Emerson Visiting Scholar in charge of educating the Hamilton community about ethics across the curriculum, Orr presented a talk entitled "Educating for the Environment: the Oberlin Model."

Orr centered his talk on the new Environmental Studies Center at Oberlin College, but it soon became clear that he has a mission for higher education that reaches far beyond the ecological design of that building. He challenges institutions of higher education to teach students about how to undo a hundred years of making the world uglier aesthetically, ecologically, and politically; to move past individual and institutional denial; and to face the mounting evidence that the planet is at the brink of ecological disaster.

His talk generated genuine hope through the example of the process by which Orr built a totally 'green' building at Oberlin. Starting with a philosophy about the relationship between humankind and the environment, Orr incorporated courses and community input into the design process to create a building that has itself become an integral part of the environmental studies program.

At the groundbreaking ceremony for the new building, Orr stated, "Three years ago we began the effort to design a building for the Environmental Studies Program. We intended to create not just a place for classes but rather a building that would help to redefine the relationship between humankind and the environment—one that would expand our sense of ecological possibilities...We began by asking: ... is it possible to design buildings so well and so carefully that they do not cast a long ecological shadow over the future that our students will inherit? We now know that such things are possible—that we can design buildings that give more than they take... But we intend the Adam Joseph Lewis Center to be more than just a demonstration. It is a means to the larger end of improving the creativity of our thinking.

The building that resulted has received national media attention, and has led to requests for advice by Princeton University in its quest to build an ecologically sound building.

Through the construction of this building, Oberlin has put itself at the forefront of environmental design and environmental studies programs, but for David Orr, the challenge runs deeper. As he put it in his 1998 article in the *Oberlin Observer*, "We have a moral interest in making certain that campus purchases, investments, and operations of the physical plant do not undermine the integrity, beauty, and stability of the world our students will inherit. The important planning questions have to do with how we might imaginatively calibrate our stated values with our real institutional behavior and do so as part of a larger effort to teach our students that the world is indeed rich in good possibilities."

The environmental studies center at Oberlin did not come about overnight but rather through the initial commitment and imagination of a single person. It was only after getting students and community members involved and very excited in hearings and research about the feasibility of a building that - to use his own words - gives more than it takes, that Orr was able to convince the administration and the trustees to take a risk. Orr successfully raised money from sources "that would otherwise not be inclined to give to Oberlin College"-as stipulated by the trustees-and was able to bring a team of experts on board, which included Amory Lovins, John Todd, and engineers from NASA. The result is a building that not only has received national acclaim but also unleashes in the students who use it the energy, the will, and the know-how to continue the process of making the world a more beautiful place.

Hamilton College is gathering speed for the construction of a new science building to replace the obsolete existing facilities. The College is also in the process of deciding what to do with the fraternity houses. The Oberlin model suggests an extraordinary opportunity for the Hamilton community, present and future. It provides the realistic hope that an ecologically rational science facility can indeed be constructed at costs that are comparable to more standard facilities. It provides the realistic hope that, like Oberlin, we can construct a facility that will not be outdated in just a few years, but rather can advance with rapidly developing alternative energy and waste management technologies. It provides the hope of living in dorms that do not create waste, that generate their own electricity, and that instill in the student the notion that our existence today may not need to come at the expense of future generations.

How realistic is the idea that such things may happen here at Hamilton College? As Orr puts it above: " The limits are no longer technological or even economic, but those of imagination and commitment."

The low attendance at his talk may be the result of scheduling conflicts combined with very low-profile advertisement for the event, and it is unfortunate that so few members of the Hamilton community had the opportunity to learn about the exciting pedagogical and ecological ideas from the driving force behind Oberlin's Environmental Studies Center. If knowledge is cumulative and important ideas have a ripple effect, then maybe Hamilton College can indeed learn from the Oberlin experience. The building stands and can be inspected, and David Orr is more than willing to give a tour and plenty of information to visitors from other institutions.

Hilke Kayser assistant professor of economics Hamilton College.

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Round trip service from the Hamilton campus to the Port Authority in NYC. Reserve your seat for only $50. YES, I'M SERIOUS! Such a deal! Seat reservations begin Monday morning, November 8 at 8:30pm at the Student Activities Office in Bristol Campus Center and will continue until we fill the Hot Turkey Bus (47 passengers).

IMPORTANT: Payment is required ($50) at time of reservation. One reservation per person. Cash and checks only. Checks payable to Trustees of Hamilton College. Refunds are not possible after November 22.

ITINERARY:

- Coach bus departs from McEwen Circle promptly at 4:30pm on Tuesday, November 23. Load time is 4:15pm.
- One 15-minute rest stop.
- Arrive at the Port Authority in NYC at approximately 10pm.

- Coach bus departs from Port Authority at 1pm on Sunday, November 28. Load time is 12:45pm.
- One 15-minute rest stop.
- Arrive at McEwen Circle at approximately 5:30pm.

QUESTIONS? Contact the Student Activities Office at 4194 or email tgallagh@hamilto.edu for more info. Yum!

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[1] Based on $250 billion in assets under management. [2] *Standard & Poor's Insurance Rating Analysis, 1999* and Lipper Analytical Services, Inc., *Lipper-Directors' Analytical Data 1999* (quarterly). [3] *Morningstar Variable Annuities/Life*, 6/30/1999. Of the 6,332 variable annuities tracked by Morningstar, the average fund had total fees combining annual expenses of 0.84% plus an insurance expense of 1.26%. TIAA-CREF expenses are subject to change and are not guaranteed for the future. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. TIAA-CREF Individual and Institutional Services distributes CREF certificates and interests in the TIAA Real Estate Account. For more complete information, including charges and expenses, call 1 800 842-2776, extension 5509, for prospectuses. Read them carefully before you invest or send money.

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ATTN: SARAH BYRNE

FRI NOV 19 THRU TUE NOV 23

1- "THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH" 1:20-4:10-7:00-9:45 PG-13 128 MIN
2- "SLEEPY HOLLOW" 12:40-2:50-5:00-7:15-9:30 R 105 MIN
3- "POKEMON" 12:15-2:30-4:35-6:45-8:50 G 89 MIN
4- "THE BONE COLLECTOR" 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:35-10:00 R 118MIN
5- "THE BACHELOR" 12:30-4:55-7:10 PG-13 102 MIN
6- "THE INSIDER" 1:40-4:50-8:15 R 158 MIN
7- "HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL" 1:10-3:20-9:35 R 96 MIN
8- "THE MESSENGER: THE STORY OF JOAN OF ARC" 2:30-6:30-9:30 R 155
9- "ANYWHERE BUT HERE" 1:50-4:25-6:50-9:10 PG-13 114 MI
10- "LIGHT IT UP" 2:45-9:15 R 103 MIN
11- "AMERICAN BEAUTY" 3:10-7:20 R 119 MIN

MATINEES SAT-SUN TWILITE SHOWS NITELY

Music Buzz

Kincaid.
Kincaid. Plays Super Hawaii
(Kindercore)

The winter can get quite depressing. Maybe it is the cold and snow, or maybe it is the fact that the sun never comes out. There is only one solution- *Kincaid. Plays Super Hawaii.* Scientific studies have shown that playing this record causes the listener to get a nice tan and sand in their butt crack. Yeah, this is beach music and you can't go wrong with that.

Kincaid. takes the basics of '60's surf rock and adds layers on to it. The five-member group uses upbeat guitar, bass, and drums and mixes them with unusual horns, keyboard, stylophone, organ, glockenspiel, and banjo. They create a sound that puts them in a growing collection of indie rock groups that modify the sounds of the '60's. The best example of this is on the title track, "Super Hawaii." The chorus is addictive. The whole group chants, "Bop bop super Hawaaa, bop super Hawaaa, bop super Hawaiiieeeeeea."

So if you are ever down during one of these cold days just throw in *Kincaid. Plays Super Hawaii* or at least check out a sound clip at *www.kindercore.com/images/kc033.jpg* Sunscreen sold separately.

-Greg Geist'01

Neutral Milk Hotel
In the Aeroplane Over the Sea
(Merge)

In the Aeroplane over the Sea is the best album you have never heard. Jeff Mangum, lead singer and songwriter for Neutral Milk Hotel, is commonly hailed as the greatest songwriter of our time in magazines that cover all genres and levels of music. Mangum's unique vocals, lyrics, and acoustic based songs are molded together into a hypnotic web.

Throughout the album, the music moves from a soft acoustic melody to a hard driven song that leaves the listener exhausted and intrigued. The album is inspired by articles in *The New York Times* from the turn of the century, as well as Mangum's reading of "The Diary of Anne Frank."

One listen to the album will put you in a daze wondering what the hell just happened. Then you'll probably question why more people don't know about this group.

Why haven't you heard of Neutral Milk Hotel? There are several reasons. Being on an independent label, Neutral Milk Hotel doesn't fit the mold of today's "popular" money-making bands and groups. Or maybe you haven't heard of NMH because Mangum and the gang are complete lunatics. They dream of living in a geodesic dome one day. Mangum claims he sees "spirits moving through the wall" and that he has a ghost living in his bathroom. Popular or not, Neutral Milk Hotel has created a classic album with *In the Aeroplane over the Sea.*

-Greg Geist'01

Jazz is dead

Press release
DL Media

Jazz is Dead-a fitting name for the brilliant collaboration of critically acclaimed rock, jazz-fusion & "jam band" musicians, interpreting the music of the legendary Grateful Dead. Jazz is Dead bassist Alphonso Johnson, guitarist Jimmy Herring, keyboardist T Lavitz and drummers Rod Morgenstein & Jeff Sipe. Their unassailable credentials in the jazz-rock field, and lofty reputations for groundbreaking creativity, are put to the test in Jazz is Dead, as they explore some of the most revered and scrutinized original material of that mythical San Francisco band-and the fans & critics resoundingly agree: "They're up to the test!"

Blue Light Rain is the title of Jazz is Dead's Zebra Records debut album, a seven-song masterpiece that dynamically reveals an affection and affinity for those jazz-tinged elements of the Dead's live music that largely went unecognized in the nearly 30 years prior to the band's retirement from recording and touring following the untimely death of its leader, guitarist Jerry Garcia, in 1995.

Jazz is Dead has taken to heart Grateful Dead's music. The Dead's legendary live, improvisational concerts(often lasting for hours) inspired Jazz is Dead on *Blue Light Rain*. Zebra Records President Ricky Schultz emphasizes, "It was apparent from the caliber of musicians that the potential for excellence was there. Because the Dead were always the most improvisational rock group, it seemed like a natural marriage and the music on *Blue Light Rain* is incredibly fresh. Jazz is Dead will play on Sunday, November 21 at Lost Horizon, at 5863 Thompson St. in Syracuse.

Movie Review

By Matt Olney '01
Spectator Movie Critic

American Beauty

It isn't often that a film lets us into the lives of an entire family. We see common family problems in all the teeny-bopper flicks flooding the screens, but these problems remain on the surface; someone is having boy trouble or they smashed up their dad's car. Ang Lee's *The Ice Storm* brought us deep into the lives of its characters, as did last year's *Pleasantville*. First time director Sam Mendes's *American Beauty* is equally effective in showing us real problems in a family.

American Beauty is about the Burnhams: Lester, Carolyn and Jane (Kevin Spacey, Annette Benning and Thora Birch), a normal, average middle class all-american family on the surface, but deep down they are far from "normal". Lester is a corporate slave who quits his job, turns to bodybuilding, pleasures himself while thinking of his daughter's best friend, and buys pot from his neighbor. Carolyn is a realtor who is in love with her main competitor and is so worried about making a good impression that she has just about lost contact with the real world. Jane is their teenage daughter who is more mortified of her parents than most other teenagers, and walks around pissed off all day because of it. Throughout the film, they all focus on making their own lives happier, but fail to amend the wounds in the family, and the results are fatal. A tragicomedy, the film is funny at times, but the tragedy sits in our minds throughout until the devastating ending.

Kevin Spacey plays his character very well. He has a bit of sarcasm in his voice that keeps Lester smart and on the edge, justifying each of his actions. Thora Birch is equally impressive. As the daughter of depressed parents, she is constantly weathering the storm, and we see this constantly build in her. Her salvation from misery lies in her neighbor, Ricky Fitts (Wes Bentley), who she falls in love with. He has problems of his own, having to deal with his over-militant father and weak mother.

Beauty is the underlying theme throughout the film. The question the movie asks is "What is beauty?" Is it vanity, does it exist on the inside, or is it simply an empty, deserted plastic bag being inflated and deflated by natures wind over and over again? This is a question that must be asked in a society where skinny is good and beauty only lies in Victoria's Secret models.

Overall this film is excellent on all levels and emotions. Technically, American Beauty is stunning. Bright colors flood the screen to give us a false feeling of happiness and security, just like the image the Burnham's are giving off. It also has an extremely surreal feeling but an edge that cannot be overlooked. Kevin Spacey plays an excellent loser who walks through his life dead until he realizes what beauty is, and will surely be nominated for an Oscar. While the other performances are wonderful, they are all overshadowed by Spacey. American Beauty should not be missed.

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Continentals go 0-8 for the first time in 18 years

by Greg Ernstrom '01
SPORTS WRITER

For the past decade, the Bates football team has been the doormat of the NESCAC. Going into Saturday's game at Stueben field, Bates had not had a .500 season in seventeen years. But that was then. Bates proved on Saturday that times have changed in the NESCAC as they handed the Continentals a 28-0 defeat.

Despite inspired play from their captain Robbie Peters, the Hamilton Continentals could not find the endzone all day long against a stingy Bates defense. Bates frustrated the young Continental offensive line with a diverse blitzing package that resulted in six sacks and a countless number of hurries. When Peters wasn't on his back he showed the talent and poise that made him one of the NESCAC's best passers last year. Peters finished the day with 13 completions for 176 yards but was unable to find his rhythm due to the relentless pass rush of Bates.

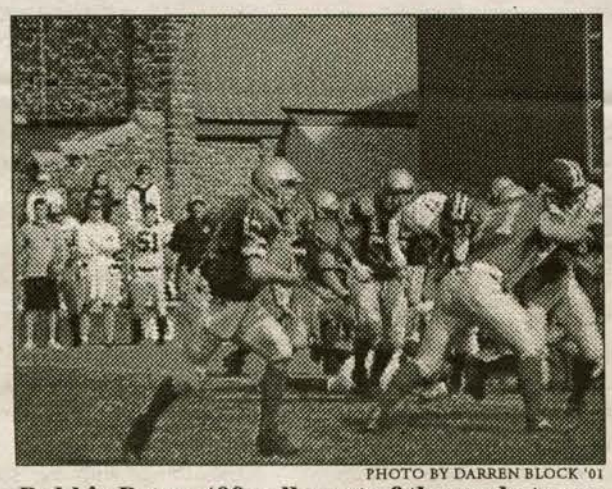

PHOTO BY DARREN BLOCK '01

Robbie Peters '00 rolls out of the pocket on a quarterback keeper during his last game.

Bates' blitzing scheme forced Hamilton into many second and long situations that did not bode well for their running attack. Chris McCarthy and Chris Weeden were held to a total of 22 carries combined. When two of the best running backs in the NESCAC are limited to only 22 carries between them, it makes it very difficult to win. The lack of run support and pass protection made it a very long day for Peters and the Hamilton defense.

The Hamilton defense played well throughout the game but again fell victim to the "big play." Bates' two touchdowns in the first half both came off of big plays. Bates' first score came midway through the first quarter after a Continental turnover gave the Bobcats excellent field position. Bates' second touchdown came off of an 84-yard pass late in the half. The defense was forced to be on the field for much of the second half due to the Continentals ineffective offense. Ron Thomas led the way for the defense with 11 tackles and one sack. Ryan Nolan and Jared Frank each had 10 tackles as well. But in the end it was not enough to beat the highly motivated Bates team.

The victory gave Bates its first four win season since 1982 as well as its first victory in the past eleven years against Hamilton. The loss concluded the Continentals first winless season since 1981.

Even though the 1999 season was frustrating for the players, coaches, and the fans, the Continentals appear to have a bright future ahead of them. The team returns virtually intact next year on both sides of the ball. Only the quarterback position is left empty. The graduation of Robbie Peters will undoubtedly effect the Continentals next season. For the past three years Peters has started at quarterback and he leaves behind a large pair of shoes to fill for whoever steps under center next season. Regardless of who is quarterbacking the Continentals next season, they have more than enough talent to win at least five or six games next year. Andy Basco '03 discussed the teams future after the game: "This season was a learning experience for us. It is hard to find anything positive in an 0-8 season, but there were still some positives. We have the nucleus of our team returning and enough talent to win our share of games next year. I have no doubt that by this time next year, 0-8 will be nothing but a memory."

The Spectator Athlete Spotlight Maggie Hanson '02

by David Zane '02
SPORTS EDITOR

Maggie Hanson is one of Hamilton College's most talented female scholar-athletes.

At the Mount Ararat School, Hanson excelled at middle distance running on the track team. As she prepared to head to Hamilton for her freshman year, she decided to make the commitment to run cross-country because, Hanson says, "I wanted to start running right away . . . to be a part of a team so that I could network and make new friends." Hanson has done much more than just make friends. She blossomed from someone who never ran cross-country before arriving at Hamilton to one of the nation's top Division III female runners. Head women's

PHOTO BY MOLLIE GARDNER '03

Maggie Hanson '02 finishes up strong.

cross-country coach Ellen Hull describes this transformation from a "shy runner who latched onto the upperclassmen" at the beginning of her freshman year, to a winter track runner who "took off" by qualifying for nationals in the 3000 meter race and finishing ninth in the nation.

This season Hanson has experienced success almost every time she steps out onto the course. Over the course of the season, Hanson finished first in eight of the 10 races, finishing no lower than fourth in the other two; Hanson placed fourth at the November 13 NCAA Atlantic Regional meet held at SUNY Geneseo. In addition, she was named the Upstate Collegiate Athletic Conference (UCAA) Runner of the Year and a first team UCAA and NYSCTC member. This weekend Hanson will race in the NCAA Championships this weekend in Wisconsin, where the potential "All-American" status awaits.

Hanson manages to stay atop her studies, although she admits that "it is difficult to be a student first and athlete second." However, she has done a very good job of this, posting an average worthy of Dean's List. Her hard work in the classroom could payoff in the form of being named an Academic All-American.

The star runner enjoys outdoor activities such as hiking, camping and backpacking. Hanson's love of the outdoors led her to apply to become an Adirondack Adventure leader, a position for which she was accepted. This unique opportunity affords freshmen the opportunity to arrive at Hamilton a week before the start of school, meet members of their class, bond with upperclassmen, and explore the beautiful Adirondack Mountains. Hanson equates camping to cross-country because, "there is no equipment involved, it is just you and the elements."

The sophomore attributes her running success to her increased mileage and summer training. But, she is quick to give the credit back to the team "Any success I have experienced is due to my team, coaches, and friends," Hanson says.

"It is always nice to know that they are there supporting you, running the same race," Hanson says of her teammates.

This weekend Hanson and her team head to Wisconsin with high hopes and expectations. "The team would like to finish in the top 16," said Hanson, "but I would like to finish in the top 35 to qualify as an All-American." According to statistics it looks as though Hanson would place 12th. Next week at this time Hamilton College may have an All-American cross country runner among its mix.

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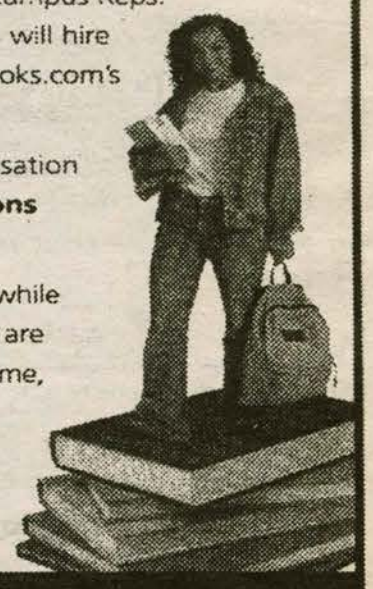
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Spectator
SPORTS

In next issues's Sports section:

- Ringel continues his expose of Hamilton's NESCAC struggles and what the future holds.
- Men's & Women's Basketball updates
- Men's & Women's Swimming results
- Complete coverage of "The Citrus Bowl"
- *Plus* updates on all your favorite Hamilton sports teams

Exiles lead New York All-Stars over Pennsylvania

by Ben Myers '00, Andrew Orzel '00, L.D. Platt '01, and Matt Glassman '00
GUEST SPORTS WRITERS

AUTHOR'S NOTE: THIS IS THE LOG BOOK AS RECORDED BY THE THREE HAMILTON RUGBY MEN WHO MADE THE NEW YORK STATE SELECT SIDE AND TRAVELED TO THE REGIONAL ALL STAR GAME IN PHILADELPHIA LAST WEEKEND.

In the year of our lord, nineteen hundred and ninety-nine, three warriors departed Hamilton, the sanctuary on the hill, to unite with other New York State Rugby All Stars to face Eastern Pennsylvania on the field of battle. Our heroes arrived in Philadelphia, clad in glittering armor and 70's garb. They checked into their Valhalla and turned their eyes toward the lights of Philly. As they departed, the tailpipe fell off Destiny, their trusty '92 Geo Prism. The cool autumn evening was spent by our lusty norsemen looting and pillaging, until they were politely asked to leave. They then returned to the inn called Holiday to prepare for battle on the following day at high noon.

As the sun rose over the city of brotherly love, our heroes, L.D. "No Pattern" Platt '01, Andrew "O-train" Orzel '00, and Ben "Glitter Boy" Myers '00 departed to live out a dream. En route to the field of battle, they paused to relive an amazing and inspirational moment in the Rocky saga, and take in some of the worlds most spectacular works of art at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Gaugin, Van Gogh, Monet, Degas, and Picasso all served as inspiration to our valiant warriors.

As the game began, Penn came out with blood on their minds and fiery eyes, scoring two quick trys, putting them ahead 14-0. New York readied their lances and soon Nigel Waters (Cornell) powered in for a try. Penn answered with a grueling drive down the field for a score, but their celebration was short-lived, as Platt took a pass from Myers and busted down the wing for a try. Down 22-10, New York again advanced, and the O-train took a pass at 22 meters, turned the corner and dove into the try zone. As Orzel put it after the game, "When the O-train's on the tracks, there ain't nobody gittin' in my way."

PHOTO BY MATT GLASSMAN '00

Brave Hamilton rugby warriors Ben Myers '00, L.D. Platt '01, and Andrew Orzel '00.

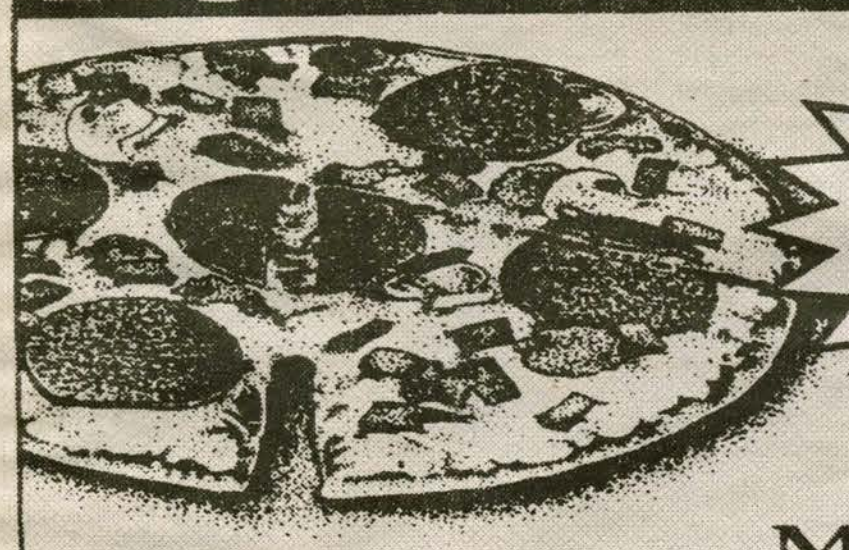
At halftime, with the score 28-24, the pillaging seemed to catch up with the New York team, as a number of them purged their breakfasts onto the pitch. The foolish Penn team thought this a good omen, but they were sorely mistaken.

In the second half, the Hamiltonians began to show their true mettle. At five minutes, Platt took a pass on the five meter line, put his shoulder down , and plowed over the try line for his second score. New York pushed down the field after the kickoff with some powerful runs by the pack. From 22 meters, Fleury (Syracuse) pulled the ball from a ruck and passed it down the back line. Waters dished it off to Myers, who gave the opposing wing a shoulder fake, turned on the jets, and went in for his first score, giving New York a 29-28 lead.

Penn proceeded to power down the field through a complacent New York team. With time winding down, New York made a goal-line stand to gain possession. A great kick by the O-train brought the ball to mid-field. Off an ensuing line out, Platt stole the ball. The backs moved it down the line, and this time Myers opted against fancy moves and gave the wing a vicious stiff arm, dragged him a few yards, and broke free, outrunning his pursuers for what turned out to be the game winner. Scully, the NY coach exclaimed, "First time in three years we've beat [Pennsylvania's all-stars]. They have guys from Penn State and Lehigh that usually just run right over us. We were saved by speed and skill. Can't wait for the 20th." The 20th is November 20th, when the New Yorkers, led by our brave Hamiltonians, face the New England All-Stars, in a game from which the Northeast Regional All-Star team will be picked.

All told, Platt scored twice, Myers twice, and Orzel once with one point after kick. Hamiltonians accounted for 27 of New York's 47 points, not bad for three guys from a tiny school in Clinton, NY. As the sun fell below the horizon and the sky turned shades of gold and red, our heroes turned their eyes toward that hill in the distance and admired the beauty of the setting sun. Myers seemed to sum it all up when he said in a tired, hoarse voice, "I'd paint it...if I could paint."

ROMA PIZZERIA



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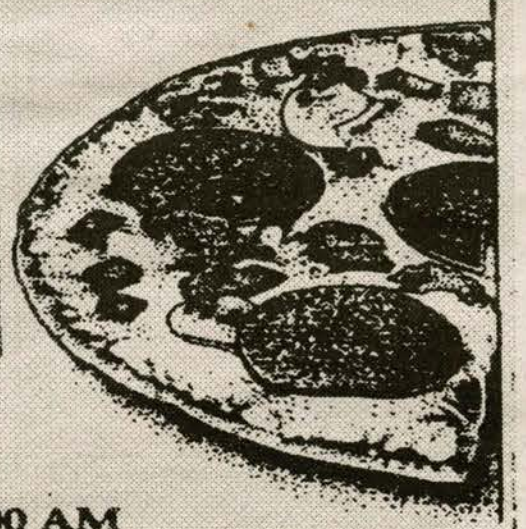

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Men's hockey hosts Colby and Bowdoin

Men's hockey preview continued from page 16

more Nick Potvin will add his solid physical play to the Continentals forechecking scheme.

The top pairing of senior Terry Bevan and sophomore Craig Leger will anchor the defense. Bevan improved dramatically last year, after seeing ice time as the sixth or seventh defenseman the previous two years. As Bevan's confidence improved, so did his play. Bevan is an offensive defenseman who is not afraid to rush the puck and create scoring opportunites. Being pared with Leger, a big, strong stay-at-home defensemen is a good move on Coach Grady's part. Grady called Leger a "top tier" defenseman, one who makes few mistakes and can counter Bevan's riskier style of play. Senior Bryant Rowean returns to the program, and is a very smart player who rarely makes mistakes in his own end. He will be paired with freshman Steve Aubuchon, who looks to make his mark early in the Conts' season. Transfer Tom Paolini is a new face on the blueline this year, while Mark Warcup provides valuable experience. Look for sophomore Bill Pettit to gain valuable experience this year and step up into a larger role as the season progresses.

FILE

Hamilton's men's ice hockey team will look to start off the season on a high note this weekend.

Goaltending should be the backbone of Hamilton's hockey club. Both goaltenders are seniors, and each has played more than their fair share of games. Brent Davey is coming off a disappointing year by his standards. After dominating the NESCAC for two years, Davey saw his goals against average rise to over four a game, and his save percentage dip to fewer than ninety percent. In all fairness to Davey, the Conts did not provide a lot of defensive help last year many of the goals against came on odd man rushes and second and third chance opportunities. Davey is very quick and possesses great reflexes, and with an older club, look for Davey to post solid numbers in his senior year. Fellow senior goaltender Scott Grenier had a solid season between the pipes, posting very good numbers (3.32ga, .902 sp). Grenier is fundamentally solid, and rarely gives up a soft goal. He too was the victim of many odd man rushes, although that can be expected when your team has a young blueline.

This year is an important year for Hamilton; they really need to establish themselves among the nation's elite. They have not had this much talent since the '96-'97 season, the last year Hamilton beat Middlebury. Hamilton elected not to go to the NCAA tournament, and opted to play in the ECAC tournament instead (under the old format, a NESCAC school must declare themselves eligible for the NCAA without being assured of a bid). This year, the NECAC has formed its own division, with all seven teams participating in post season play. The winner of the tournament receives an automatic bid to the NCAA championships. In order to do so, the Conts must find a way to beat the dominant Middlebury Panthers, who haven't ended a season in five years without being crowned NCAA champion. However, Coach Grady's Continentals have a legitimate shot of winning the NESCAC tournament. In order to do so, he must get all the talent to mesh.

Every Monday night at 7:00 pm

Join Beverly Low for The Women's Sports Page

Only on WHCL 88.7 FM

In the coming weeks look for WHCL's winter sports broadcast schedule!

Beat the Experts

Each pick has been selected to win contest outright. *If any given game ends in a tie, that game is thrown out of the lineup. Beat the "Experts"* is by no means associated with organized gambling on professional or college sports. Whichever Guest Handicapper posts the best winning percentage during their week will be selected as *Hamilton's Athlete of the Week* (honorary) in the final issue of this semester and will be entitled to all the perks therein, namely an all-expense paid dinner with our devilishly handsome **Sports Editors, Peter and David, as well as his or her picture in *The Spectator*.**

Specially Selected Sporting Events	**Peter Ringel** *Spectator Sports Editor*	**David Zane** *Spectator Sports Editor*	**Riley Fenner** *Spectator Editor-in-Chief*	**Josh Klahre** **Junior** *Guest #11*
	Last Week: 3-9 **To date: 74-45**	**Last Week: 6-6** **To date: 76-43**	**Last Week: 4-8** **To date: 64-55**	Last Week's Guest: **Chris McCarthy** **8-4**
NFL				
Atlanta at Tampa Bay 11/21	Bucs	Bucs	Falcons	Falcons
Buffalo at NY Jets 11/21	Jets	Bills	Bills	Jets
Chicago at San Diego 11/21	Bears	Chargers	Chargers	Bears
Detroit at Green Bay 11/21	Lions	Lions	Packers	Lions
New England at Miami 11/21	Dolphins	Dolphins	Patriots	Patriots
Baltimore at Cincinatti 11/21	Ravens	Ravens	Ravens	Ravens
St. Louis at San Francisco 11/21	Rams	Rams	49ers	Rams
Indianapolis at Philadelphia 11/21	Colts	Colts	Eagles	Colts
NY Giants at Washington 11/21	Redskins	Redskins	Redskins	Giants
Carolina at Cleveland 11/21	Panthers	Panthers	Panthers	Panthers
Dallas at Arizona 11/21	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cardinals
Oakland at Denver 11/22	Broncos	Raiders	Raiders	Broncos

If you think that you can beat these "experts," drop us a line and we will try to get you in. Write "I can beat the experts" on a piece of paper and add your name, then fold it and address it to the sports editor at *The Spectator*. Drop it in campus mail and if you're randomly selected, you'll quickly receive a form for you to make your picks.

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Women's ice hockey preview: Team's strength lies in defense

by Charles Spiliotis '03
SPORTS WRITER

The women's hockey team appears as promising a team as Hamilton offers this winter. Coming off a 12-10-1 season, in which it matched the school win record, Hamilton brings a strong freshmen class to the table to accompany its already talented corps of upperclassmen.

Coach Susan Reece, who is in her second year coaching the team said, "We're going to be asking a lot of our freshmen. A lot of them are going to have to play right away, to step it up from the beginning. We only have two lines really, so everybody is going to have to be on the same page. We're going to have a short bench, so we'll try to keep in great shape and just play smart."

The strength of the Continental team is without doubt on the defensive end. The loss of last year's co-captain Lydia Heenan should not have an impact on this physical unit. Led by captain Alexa Slaunwhite '00 and Kristen Engster '01, as well as newcomer Bri O'Hare '03, the "D" should carry the team as far as it will go.

"We definitely are low in numbers, but I think we are very capable of having a winning season, because we are all determined girls and have good attitudes," said O'Hare.

Up front, Hamilton will look to juniors Lauren Spoon and assistant captain Kathleen Lubin, as well as a host of freshmen forwards led by Paula Dady '03 to fill the void left by Hamilton's now all-time leading scorer Amy Williams who graduated in last year.

"We have a lot to work on, but I think we're really working hard doing a good job of adjusting. We had eight returners quit, but we have about ten freshmen in their place, who all seem to be going out and doing everything they can. Our offense looks okay right now, but we've always had some trouble putting the puck in the net, but we also have a lot of good skaters and once they get some more confidence, we could do really well," said Lubin of the team.

Dady added, "I'm very optimistic about this year because we have solid goalies and a good base of returning players. The freshmen class is going to be a vital asset to us having a winning season as well."

In net, the Continentals have three capable goalies in Lorena Gonzalez '02, Andrea Cecchinato '01, and Jen Kroleski '03. Although Gonzalez started the majority of Hamilton games last season, all three look impressive at this point and a clear-cut starter has yet to emerge.

The women's hockey team, who plays in the Eastern College Athletic Conference, finished with a 9-8-1 record in conference last year, and opens up with two away games at Williams and RPI this weekend. The Continentals face what probably will be their toughest competition of the year before Christmas, as they take on Division I programs, Colgate and Mercyhurst. The team also faces strong ECAC opposition in Bowdoin and Colby, all within the first three weeks of the season.

What is your opinion of Hamilton athletics and the NESCAC?

Email your opinions to spec@hamilton.edu and we'll be sure to include the best responses in the next issue.

Ringel examines admissions decisions at Hamilton

Admissions & Athletics continued from page 16

whereas NESCAC rivals Amherst, Bates, Bowdoin, Colby, Middlebury, Wesleyan, and Williams all claim to be "need blind" institutions. The difference between the two categories is that those schools that advertise themselves as "need blind" do not take into account how much money or financial aid a student needs when they contemplate accepting students. Hamilton, Trinity, and Connecticut College all make no secret of the fact that they will consider how much financial aid a student needs in their ultimate decision regarding admitting each and every candidate.

For example, if Johnny and Tommy were both looking to play hockey at Hamilton, and they sent in their applications, the admissions office makes no secret that it will consider how much money both students need. If the hockey coach tells admissions that Johnny is really better than Tommy, and he needs Johnny if the hockey team wants to improve next year, then admissions would admit Johnny, right? Not so fast.

Assuming that Johnny and Tommy both had comparable grades or profiles, and neither student applied early decision (where financial aid is guaranteed), then the decision at a school that is not "need blind," such as Hamilton, often comes down to financial aid. If Johnny needs $24,000 to attend Hamilton and Tommy needs no financial aid, there is a strong chance that the hockey coach will be disappointed when Tommy and not Johnny (his first choice) is admitted. Financial aid is not a bottomless pit and decisions often come down to who needs money and who does not.

NESCAC schools (excluding Hamilton) have a clear advantage in recruiting players in New England because there is less competition from state schools in Massachusetts or Connecticut than in New York. When Hamilton recruits athletes in New York, many recruits also look at what is a very strong SUNY (State University of New York) system. There is no strong state system in Massachusetts or Connecticut as there is in New York. Hamilton does need to sell itself better to prospective students, especially those from the New York area.

It is very easy to scapegoat admissions for the problems plaguing Hamilton's athletic teams against NESCAC opposition. But it is not as if admissions wants Hamilton's teams to not be competitive. Conversely, the admissions office is adamant about the fact that it does not want Hamilton's teams to be the doormat of the NESCAC.

The main point of contention is whether admissions should take students whose qualifications are clearly below those of the "average" Hamilton student. Coaches often want these players to be accepted, and when admissions rejects them the result is often known as the "blame game." The coaches blame admissions for not admitting kids they feel are a necessity to their teams or not providing them with the necessary financial aid to attend Hamilton. On the other hand, the Admissions office claims the grades and profiles of these prospects were not up to par for Hamilton.

To be quite honest, from the talks I have had with both sides, I do not believe that the divisiveness is as strong as many people claim. The fact is that most of the time they are able to work together to get the best kids and the best athletes in here, but there are always some people (on both sides) who are not pleased with certain decisions.

Another factor that comes into play is "who chooses us." Admissions can accept many student-athletes, but it cannot force the kids to matriculate. It is up to everyone who is involved in the process (admissions, coaches, and players) to sell the school to prospective players. It is not the job of one or two people, nor should it be.

But of course athletics gets so much attention (in terms of recruiting players) that it begs the question "what about recruiting kids in other disciplines?" The college must be balanced in other areas as well. Ideally, you want a diverse campus both ethnically and geographically. Hamilton also wants to recruit people interested in the arts: dance, music, and theater.

The college also has to do a better job of marketing itself and getting its name out there. Of the eleven schools that make up the NESCAC, I would place Hamilton's name recognition among high school seniors within the bottom quarter. People just don't know the name "Hamilton" like they know Williams, Middlebury, or Amherst.

However, since Rit Fuller took over as Dean of Admissions in the fall of 1994, the school's ranking has climbed dramatically in the *U.S. News and World Report* rankings. Admissions only accounts for 20 percent of that ranking, but it is definitely a significant part. Is the ranking tremendously important? Well, that depends upon whom you ask.

But I know that there are many alumni and trustees that care a great deal about where Hamilton ranks in regard to other liberal arts schools. There are also a large percentage of alumni who are not pleased at the performance of many athletic teams in recent years.

One interesting side note is that admissions maintains a list of every team's grade point average each semester. In addition, it also tracks the number of athletes that are on academic probation on each athletic team. And as it turns out, some sports teams consistently perform better academically than others. Tennis, cross-country, squash, crew, and swimming tend to perform the best, while a few teams continually remain at the lower end of the spectrum.

Is there a definitive answer to why Hamilton's teams have struggled in the NESCAC? Of course not. The first step is to acknowledge the problems that exist and then decide how to change them. The first step is easy, because things currently are not going well. But we also need to promote the positives that are going on in the athletic department.

There are some teams that have done very well, including men's basketball, men's hockey, men's and women's swimming, and golf, to name a few. The immediate solution is to help those teams that are currently struggling.

Thank you to all of those who took time out of their busy schedules to help contribute to this article.

Next week: Part III will focus on where Hamilton goes from here in regard to its position in NESCAC play.

November 19, 1999

Spectator SPORTS

The spotlight is back!
Check out the athlete spolight 12

Disappointing end
Football ends tough season 12

Women's Cross-Country heads to NCAA Tournament

Sophomore Maggie Hanson places fourth at Regionals

by Michael Everhart '02
SPORTS WRITER

After disappointing finishes in the two previous meets, the women's cross-country team qualified for this weekend's NCAA Championships at the University of Wisconsin at Oshkosh for the first time since 1995, by finishing second in the Atlantic Regional Championships last weekend.

The team finished one point behind The College of New Jersey, and easily beat SUNY Geneseo and SU Cortland, who were the other teams that q lified for NCAA's. As a result of its great performance, the team is now ranked ninth in the nation, which is nine spots better than its previous ranking. Co-captain Emily Hill '01 said, "This past weekend at NCAA Regionals our wildest dream came true. Everyone had one of their best races all season and we easily qualified for the NCAA National meet in Wisconsin. Our goal of coming in fourth was far surpassed when we had our top six runners in the top thirty-five," which means that they were All-Regional. Maggie Hanson '02 led the team and finished fourth overall with a time of 18:14, twenty-eight seconds behind the winning time.

Hill thinks that the new uniforms are good luck, adding that, "We knew that qualifying for NCAA's was not an opportunity that comes along everyday, and we were determined to make the most of it. Coach was telling us during the race that we were going to qualify if we held our places, and I think that at that point no one was going to slow down. It was also the first showing of our new uniforms, so hopefully they are blessed for upcoming races and seasons."

PHOTO COURTESY OF ELLEN HULL

Lesley Vars '00 puts it all on the line down the final stretch.

In her best meet of the season, Annie Toth '02 finished seventh, ten seconds behind Hanson. Toth gave credit to the team's fans, saying that "A great effort by all seven of our runners, our own personal fan club, and a great pre-meet dinner at Pizza Hut made it all possible." Following Toth was the pack of Hill, Jen Cammarano '03, co-captain Lesley Vars '00, and Sara Roitman '03, that clinched the second place finish for the team. They finished seventeenth, twenty-second, twenty-sixth, and thirty-first, respectively, with times of 18:59, 19:08, 19:14, and 19:22, which was Roitman's best time this season. Their times had not been so close together all season. Vars said about the team's performance, "Everyone on the team had an outstanding performance at Regionals. Everything finally came together when it really counted." Sarah Lichtenstein rounded out the team by finishing one hundred twenty-third with a time of 21:29.

This weekend, there will be twenty-four teams from eight regions trying to become NCAA champions. Hamilton has seen six out of the 23 other teams, and has beaten three of them sometime during the season. The College of New Jersey, which beat Hamilton by one point last weekend, is ranked sixth nationally.

Coach Hull described tomorrow's meet, "For NCAA's we're shooting for sixteenth place. It would mean that another team from our region gets to qualify next year. Anything above sixteenth is just icing on the cake." In 1995 the team finished 21st, but Hull says that this year's team is better than the 1995 team.

Hill also said the team's chances are good. "After our success this past weekend we're all excited as we anticipate the National meet, where if the team comes in the top sixteen we can secure more national spots for our region next year," she added.

"The top 35 individuals are All-American, so it's entirely feasible that some of our runners will get that recognition as well. Now that we have gotten a taste of our true potential, and have taken other teams like Cortland and Geneseo off pedestals, we should surprise a few teams at nationals if we ran anything like we did at regionals."

Hanson has dominated all season and was not far behind the defending NCAA champion, Cheryl Smith, last weekend. Toth is coming off a superb performance, and is not far behind Hanson, and said about tomorrow, "As for Wisconsin, we're not really sure what to expect yet. But if we can focus like we did today, we can rise to the occasion." Regardless of how well the team does tomorrow, or how many of the runners become All-Americans, the 1999 women's cross-country team could be the best ever at Hamilton.

Ice hockey opens season with Citrus Bowl against Colby

by JP LeBlanc '01
SPORTS WRITER

The 1999-2000 men's varsity hockey season gets underway Friday against Colby. The Conts went 12-9-2 last year, somewhat disappointing for one of the nation's premier division III hockey teams.

This year won't be any easier, considering the Continentals possess an extremely difficult schedule. Hamilton must play five-time defending national champion Middlebury at Middlebury, plus preseason number five Elmira and number eight Williams on the road. Do not expect the Continentals to back down from any opponent. Hamilton is ranked 12th in nation in preseason polls, and with the strongest senior class the program has seen in years, that ranking is sure to improve.

Coach Phil Grady describes this year's team as "blue collar" and that the team "comes to play" every game. It is safe to say that Grady's assessment of his team is an accurate one. The Continentals are perhaps the hardest working team in the NESCAC division. Led by an aggressive forecheck that forces turnovers in the opponent's defensive end, the Continentals score plenty of goals through grinding and checking along the boards. Perhaps the hardest working player in the program is senior captain Chris Baudo, who scored 14 goals last year. Not only is he a gifted offensive player, but he is also an excellent penalty killer and is responsible at his own end of the rink.

The other captain for the '99-'00 season is senior forward Brian Grady. Like Baudo, Grady is a talented two-way player who is not afraid to play a physical style of play. Blessed with size and good playmaking skills, look for Grady to improve on the two goal, 13 assist campaign he posted last year. Senior forward Mike Phalen will also provide leadership to the Hamilton College offense. One of the strongest players on the team, Phalen's bodychecking skills often lead to opponents' turnovers. While it might not show up on the stat sheet, Phalen's hard-nosed style is an essential component to the Hamilton offense.

Junior wing Vic Cizmarik scored 20 goals last year for the Continentals last year, however, he needs to improve on his three assists. A quick skater with solid stickhandling skills, look for Cizmarik to be one of the leading scorers on this year's team.

A key addition to the program will be forward J.P. Acosta. A transfer from division I Princeton, he will be playing on Hamilton's first line alongside center Grady and right winger Baudo. Together, this could be one of the premier lines in the nation. The addition of Acosta will aid in the loss of senior John Manley (6g, 12a), who is not playing for the Conts this year.

Perhaps Hamilton's greatest asset is the depth in the forwards. Often times, teams have only one or two lines that can be called on to score. The Conts go three or four lines deep, wearing down the opponent as the game progresses. Juniors Cory Dorzek and Sean Smith can be called upon to put the puck in the net, and sophomore Tim Canefield quietly scored eight goals last year. Sopho-

*Please see **Men's Hockey Preview**, page 14*

Admissions & Athletics: Why Hamilton struggles in the NESCAC

Part II of a III part series

We left off talking about what needed to be accomplished to improve the quality of athletics at Hamilton. Obviously, facilities need to be improved. We need to be competitive with other NESCAC schools, and right now we are not. We need new squash courts. We need better soccer fields. There is a lack of quality practice fields for soccer and football. But perhaps the biggest problem stems from Hamilton's participation in two different conferences.

PETER RINGEL

The Ringel Angle

Hamilton competes in many sports in both the UCAA (Upstate College Athletic Association) and NESCAC (New England Small College Athletic Conference). Hamilton has two problems that result from its association in both of these conferences. First, NESCAC is made up of ten teams from New England (three Maine schools, three from Massachusetts, three from Connecticut, and one from Vermont) and Hamilton. The fact that we are the lone New York team in the conference puts us at a distinct disadvantage to recruit players from the New England area. NESCAC also prohibits coaches from visiting a player and talking to them.

The UCAA, however, does not have the same policy in regard to visiting athletes, and as a result, teams like St. Lawrence and Hobart can approach prospective athletes and shake hands with them, while Hamilton coaches have their hands tied because of their NESCAC affiliation. The UCAA schools can also do more than shake hands; they can make home visits to prospective student athletes. Being affiliated with both conferences clearly hurts Hamilton. It appears that Hamilton is at a disadvantage in both conferences (in regard to recruiting) because of its dual membership.

Another major problem regarding Hamilton athletics is the admissions office. However, I had a great talk with Dean of Admissions Rit Fuller this week and he spoke very candidly about every issue and question I posed to him. Admissions tends to get blamed by many people in the athletic department for the struggles of many Hamilton teams. The basic argument is that we cannot get enough of the big time recruits into the school, because admissions is constantly raising the standards for all Hamilton applicants. However, it is the President and the trustees who are raising the standards for all applicants. The President and trustees give admissions an idea of what kinds of students they are looking for in every incoming class. But Fuller stressed that admissions makes, "a real concerted effort toward athletics" and he also reminded me that Hamilton has over 25 sports teams, and it is not always easy to appease each and every coach by granting admission to every student they list as top of the line recruits.

Financial Aid or lack thereof continues to be a problem not just for some athletes, but for many students. Hamilton boasts that it is not a "need-blind" college,

*Please see **Admissions & Athletics** page 15*